

**MINUTES OF THE  
JOINT PUBLIC EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2005  
Room W135, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex**

Members Present:            Sen. Howard Stephenson, Co-Chair  
                                 Rep. Gordon E. Snow, Co-Chair  
                                 Sen. Karen Hale  
                                 Rep. J. Stuart Adams  
                                 Rep. Ron Bigelow  
                                 Rep. Duane E. Bourdeaux  
                                 Rep. LaVar Christensen  
                                 Rep. Tim M. Cosgrove  
                                 Rep. John Dougall  
                                 Rep. James A. Ferrin  
                                 Rep. Julie Fisher  
                                 Rep. Karen W. Morgan  
                                 Rep. Stephen H. Urquhart

Members Excused:        Pres. John Valentine  
                                 Sen. Beverly Evans

Staff Present:            R. Michael Kjar, Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
                                 Ben Leishman, Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
                                 Cherie Schmidt, Secretary

Public Speakers Present:   Phillip Jeffery, Budget Analyst GOPB

A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes

Committee Co-Chair Stephenson called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

1.     Approval of Minutes - Minutes of the last meeting were not available for approval.
2.     Committee Introduction & Meeting Procedures - Members of the Committee were instructed on the use of the microphones. Public visitors were advised to contact the Legislative Fiscal Analyst at 538-1034 if they wish to address the Committee. Each member of the Committee introduced themselves.
3.     Public Education Budget Overview - An overview of the budget was given by R. Michael Kjar, Legislative Fiscal Analyst. Members of the Committee were previously given a Companion book containing the budget along with historical data about previous budgets. All of the material contained in this book is available to the public on the Legislative

Fiscal Analyst Web Page. Different sections of the *Budget Analysis* were explained, including Issue Briefs and Budget Briefs. Mr. Kjar indicated that the base budget has been allocated, and no additional funding is available for the Committee.. Committee members were encouraged to read the Issue Briefs in preparation for budget discussions.

4. Budget Format & Major Issues/Funding Priorities - An overview of the controlling procedures was discussed along with where additional information can be found.
5. Governor Huntsman's Budget Priorities–Phillip Jeffery, Governor's Budget Analyst - A handout was given to Committee members outlining the Governor's budget for Public Education. Mr. Jeffery stated that education is one of four major policy priorities of Governor Huntsman. The areas in education that the Governor wants to address are teacher pay, accountability, and maintain what we have. The Governor has recommended that \$15 million be allocated for teacher recruitment and retention. The Governor has also proposed a 4½ percent increase for WPU. This includes a 2½ percent cost of living increase and a 2 percent benefits increase. Governor Huntsman is very supportive of the Utah School Board's 4-6 Grade Math Program. The Governor has recommended that \$14 million be put into that program to get it started. The Governor has also requested that \$1 million be allocated to continue the reading program that was started last year. There is also a one-time \$10 million recommendation for math and literacy supplies. The Maintain What We Have Category refers to funding for enrollment growth. To offset rising costs of fuel and school buses, the Governor has recommended that \$3 million be allocated to the Transportation Program.
6. Initial Subcommittee Business–Agenda Item Requests by Subcommittee Members - Agenda item requests should be made to the Legislative Fiscal Analysts. Sponsors of bills are invited to address the Committee and explain their bills.
7. Adjourn -

**MOTION:** Rep. John Dougall moved to adjourn at 4:47 p.m.

Minutes were reported by Cherie Schmidt, Secretary

